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★ SEP 3 ★

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

1.9  
In 342  
Housekeeper's Chat

Monday, September 8, 1930.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

SUBJECT: "Housecleaning for Safety." Suggestions from the National Safety Council. Menu from the Bureau of Home Economics, U.S.D.A.

BULLETINS AVAILABLE: Convenient Kitchens; Methods and Equipment for Home Laundering; Simple Plumbing Repairs in the Home; Floors and Floor Coverings; Housecleaning Made Easier

--ooOoo--

Did you know that home accidents cause just as many deaths as industrial accidents, and about three-fourths as many as motor vehicle accidents? I was astounded to learn from a pamphlet issued by the National Safety Council, that we can stay right in our own houses, and have a great many serious things happen to us, even if the accidents are not fatal.

Come to think of it, I remember one of our Sewing Club meetings, when almost every one of us would have done credit to a gathering of war veterans. Mrs. Peters came in on crutches; she had fallen down her dark cellar stairs and sprained her ankle. Mrs. Robinson's hand was all swollen black and blue, from tripping over the rug in her front hall, which slipped on the freshly waxed floor. Mrs. Holden's entire head was wrapped in bandages; much of her hair and scalp had been burned by an outburst of flame when she stooped down to light her gas oven.

And one mother reported that her boy had been cut by a razor blade in some rubbish he was handling, and had had to have several stitches taken; while another told of a serious fire in her cellar, started by some oily rags left near a pile of old newspapers.

Falls, burns, explosions; asphyxiation and suffocation; poisons, cuts, and scratches--- that's the list given by the National Safety Council of things that can happen under our own roofs. The council has also issued a helpful "News Letter" for those who are in the midst of housecleaning. It is suggested that, along with making things clean and tidy, we see to it that every possible safety precaution is introduced into our houses and their furnishings. Here are some of the points they call to our attention:

Take the kitchen: Are the gas burners clean inside, as well as outside? Perhaps the trouble with Mrs. Holden's oven was due to clogged burners. Are matches in a safe place? How often children are found playing with matches! The papers are full of stories of dreadful fires and deaths from just this cause. Is there an adequate rack for sharp knives? Two pieces of lath, separated by small blocks, and nailed to the wall, will make a handy knife rack. It not only prevents accidents due to keeping sharp knives in drawers, but keeps the edges of the knives in much better conditions.

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STATE OF NEW YORK

In SENATE,  
January 1, 1911.

REPORT  
OF THE  
COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE  
IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION  
PASSED BY THE SENATE  
MAY 1, 1909.

ALBANY:

WILLIAM W. BROWN, COMPTROLLER  
OF THE SENATE, PRINTING OFFICE,  
1911.

THE LAND OFFICE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
HAS THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECEIPT  
OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE  
LAND OFFICE, IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION  
PASSED BY THE SENATE MAY 1, 1909.

THE REPORT IS HEREBY RECORDED  
AND THE COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE  
IS ADVISED THAT THE SAME HAS BEEN  
FORWARDED TO THE SENATE.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO  
SET MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE  
AT ALBANY, NEW YORK,  
THIS 1ST DAY OF JANUARY, 1911.

WILLIAM W. BROWN,  
COMPTROLLER OF THE SENATE.



Have inflammable lamp shades been removed? This applies in the kitchen, and everywhere else in the house. Is the towel rack at a safe distance from the stove? I've had tea towels fall or blow over on the stove and catch fire, haven't you? Are all explosive liquids out of the kitchen? This means cleaning fluids like gasoline and benzene, and even kerosene, except where it is in the proper part of a lamp or oil stove.

The stairs are especially mentioned as a place of danger in this news letter. The first thing is, --- are they absolutely free of anything that will trip a person? An argument for uncovered treads, which are easiest to keep clean, any way. Are the stairs adequately lighted? Witness Mrs. Peters' accident. She has an electric switch now at the head of the cellar stairs, which should have been there long ago to assure a light all the way up. The attic stairs, too, should be well lighted, and never obstructed by piling up unwanted articles, until someone can take them all the way up. Strong hand-rails are also important. And there should be no little, slippery rugs at the head or the foot of any stairs.

All accumulated rubbish should be removed from both cellar and attic, particularly inflammable material. Fires sometimes start by "spontaneous combustion", given a favorable combination of materials, lack of air, and substances to feed on.

In the cellar we are warned to see that the furnace is clean, that metal containers are provided for ashes, and that kindling is piled neatly at a safe distance from the furnace. This does not mean that you need walk across the cellar for every stick of kindling wood, but that reasonable safety is needed in locating the woodpile.

The laundry may be in the basement. If so, have some qualified person look at the insulation on the electric wiring, that goes to the washing machine, the ironer, or the iron, and any other electrical equipment in the house. The laundry gas stove burners, like those of the cookstove, should be regularly cleaned. Fall cleaning-time is a good opportunity for doing this.

The National Safety Council believes that maybe the living-room floors can be too highly polished, so that small rugs slide around on them. Such rugs can be anchored down in various ways. We all like our floors to look nice, but a good finish need not cause what Billy calls "skidding". If you have many electric extensions to radios, floor lamps, and other outlets in the living-room, make sure the circuits are not overburdened, or some day you'll have a fire in your house.

The danger points in the bath-room may be the water heater, a clogged vent pipe, lack of a strong brace to hold to in getting in or out of the bath tub, and the medicine cabinet. Are bottles of poison plainly marked with pins in the corks, and put where the children cannot possibly get at them? Preferably under lock and key, I say. Have a tinful of sand for used razor blades. At intervals, it can be buried in a vacant lot, where the blades will soon rust away. In some houses a slot is provided in the bath-room window sill, for dropping razor blades into the studding, I understand. Not a bad idea.



9/8/30

There are, of course, dozens of other points of safety--- or danger --- about a home. Meantime, let's have the menu that the Menu Specialist has planned for today.

Ready? Baked Ham with Tomatoes; Baked Sweet Potatoes; Creamed Onions; Stewed Plums; and Spice Cake.

I'll give you the recipe for Baked Tomatoes and Ham, as it is not in the Radio Cook Book. Three ingredients only:

4 firm ripe tomatoes  
Slice of ham, 1 inch thick  
Buttered bread crumbs

Let's repeat the 3 ingredients: (Repeat.)

If the ham is very salty, cover with water, bring to the boiling point, and drain. Then brown the ham well on both sides, and place in a shallow baking dish. Mild ham does not need the parboiling but may be browned at once. Cover the browned ham with tomatoes sliced in half, and bake for 1 hour in a moderate oven. When the ham is tender, sprinkle buttered bread crumbs over the tomatoes, and brown lightly. Serve in the baking dish.

Not let's repeat the menu once more: Baked Ham with Tomatoes; Baked Sweet Potatoes; Creamed Onions; Stewed Plums; and Spice cake.

Perhaps you would like me to mention some bulletins that will help you in looking for possible danger spots in your house. Begin with "Housecleaning Made Easier"; then put down "Convenient Kitchens", "Methods and Equipment for Home Laundering", "Simple Plumbing Repairs in the Home", "Floors and Floor Coverings." Running through all of these you will find precautions that should be taken around a home.

Quite a list, isn't it? Leaving us very little excuse for carelessness that causes accidents.

TOMORROW: Crabapple jelly for Christmas.

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1. 1940年12月1日，在天津法租界英租界交界处，  
 2. 1940年12月1日，在天津法租界英租界交界处，  
 3. 1940年12月1日，在天津法租界英租界交界处，

6. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* contents were determined by the method of Lichtenthaler and Whistler (1973).

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